

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A process for purifying alpha-1-antitrypsin (A1AT) from other protein components in an alpha-1-antitrypsin containing solution, comprising:
 - (a) subjecting an alpha-1-antitrypsin containing solution to ion-exchange chromatography;
 - (b) then adding detergents and optionally a solvent for inactivating lipid-enveloped viruses;
 - (c) wherein step (b) is followed by increasing the salt concentration to salt out the detergents.
2. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein said alpha-1-antitrypsin containing solution has been obtained from the group consisting of blood plasma or its fractions, a reconstituted plasma fraction IV1 (Cohn), from a recombinantly or transgenically expressed alpha-1-antitrypsin preparation and a fermentation supernatant.
3. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein ion-exchange chromatography is performed on an anion-exchange gel.
4. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein said virus inactivation according to step (b) is effected with Triton X-100, Polysorbate 80 (Tween 80), tri-n-butyl phosphate or caprylic acid or caprylate, at final concentrations of $\geq 0.1\%$ (w/w) Triton X-

100 and Tween 80, $\geq 0.03\%$ (w/w) tri-n-butyl phosphate, ≥ 0.1 mM caprylic acid or caprylate, with an incubation time of ≥ 0.1 hours.

5. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the salt concentration of the solution is brought to ≥ 0.5 M in step (c) and particles formed thereby are removed by filtration.
6. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein a further chromatography on hydrophobic chromatographic materials is performed.
7. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein a treatment of the alpha-1-antitrypsin containing solution with a material comprising heparin in an immobilized form is performed.
8. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 5, wherein a further virus inactivation step is performed after the filtration of particles formed thereby, the virus inactivation step comprising pasteurization in the presence of ≥ 0.5 M sodium citrate, amino acids, sugars or mixtures thereof.
9. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the ion strength of the solution is reduced by ultrafiltration, diafiltration, or ultrafiltration and diafiltration.
10. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein a separation of virus particles is performed with filters having pore sizes of 15-20 nm.

11. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the alpha-1-antitrypsin solution obtained is stored as a liquid, frozen or freeze-dried preparation.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Cancelled)
16. (Cancelled)
17. (Cancelled)
18. (Cancelled)
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Cancelled)